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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/545,689	04/07/2000	Richard John Blasiak	RAL9000022	2096

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EXAMINER

ZHEN, LI B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2126

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/545,689

Applicant(s)

BLASIAK ET AL.

Examiner

Li B. Zhen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 – 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent NO. 6,289,391 to Smith in view of U.S. Patent NO. 5,710,923 to Jennings.

As to claim 1, Smith teaches remote procedure calls (external procedure calls; column 5, lines 23 – 30) in a multiprocessing system, the multiprocessing system including a general purpose processor and a plurality of network processors (Client CPU and at least one Server CPU; column 2, lines 49 – 52); each of the plurality of network processors having a memory, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) accessing a reserved address (SIRW, stuffed indirect reference word, column 8, lines 23 – 41; stores an SIRW to the event in a global MCP Operating System array; column 9, lines 1 – 5) in at least one of the network processors; and

(b) initiating a software action by a first portion of the reserved address (SIRW is an MCP-specific hardware construct used as an indirection to reference another location... SIRW can be thought of as a jump table... indexing the jump

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table allows reference to a specific MCP Server function; column 8, lines 32 – 41).

Although Smith shows substantial features of the claimed invention, he does not explicitly show pointing to an address within the memory in a second portion of the reserved address.

However, Jennings teaches remote procedure calls in a multiprocessing system (active messaging among nodes of a parallel processing system; see abstract) and pointing to an address within the memory (Local parameters pointer 16e, Fig. 5; column 5, lines 15 – 18) in a second portion (μ LP) of the reserved address (μ thread descriptor; column 6, lines 6 – 20), wherein the data at the address is processed (Local Parameters pointer references the parameters for the operation on the global data, column 5, lines 30 – 35; μ LP component of the descriptor references in system memory; column 6, lines 20 – 25).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teaching of pointing to an address within the memory in a second portion of the reserved address as taught by Jennings to the invention of Smith because the Local Parameters pointer references the parameters for the operation (column 5, lines 18 – 23 of Jennings). Obviously, the pointer to the function and the pointer to the parameters would be stored together at one location because this would simplify access to a function and its parameters.

As to claim 6, this is a system claim that corresponds to method claim 1; note the rejection to claim 1 above, which also meets this system claim.

As to claims 2 and 7, Smith teaches the reserved address comprises one instruction (SIRW is an MCP-specific hardware construct used as an indirection to reference another location...provide the Proxy Procedures in the NT Server Program with a way to reference functions in the MCP Client Program; column 8, lines 30 – 40).

As to claims 3 and 8, Smith teaches each of the network processors include a reserved address (stores an SIRW to the event in a global MCP Operating System array; column 9, lines 1 – 5).

As to claims 4 and 9, Smith teaches a location of the reserved address of each network processor is known by the other processors (stores an SIRW to the event in a global MCP Operating System array and returns the index used in the array to the Client Program, block 151/351 of FIGS. 5E and 5F; column 9, lines 1 – 5).

As to claims 5 and 10, Smith teaches the reserved addresses (SIRW, stuffed indirect reference word, column 8, lines 23 – 41) of each network processor are in the same location of memory (stores an SIRW to the event in a global MCP Operating System array; column 9, lines 1 – 5).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent NO. 6,243,762 to Greene teaches a multiprocessing system with mechanisms that permit each process to access storage locations in the memory of other processes by specifying addresses associated with those locations.

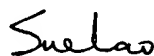
U.S. Patent NO. 6,151,638 to Hale teaches performing external procedure calls from a client program to a server program.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3406. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8am - 4:30pm.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Li B. Zhen
Examiner
Art Unit 2126



lbz
June 9, 2003